



SOUTH CAROLINA ENVIRONMENTAL LAW PROJECT

Presentation before the South Carolina Public Service Commission

Docket No. 2006-244-G

Lauren Megill Milton, Staff Attorney

February 2, 2021

SCELP MISSION STATEMENT

To protect the natural environment of South Carolina by providing legal services and advice to environmental organizations and concerned citizens and by improving the state's system of environmental regulation.

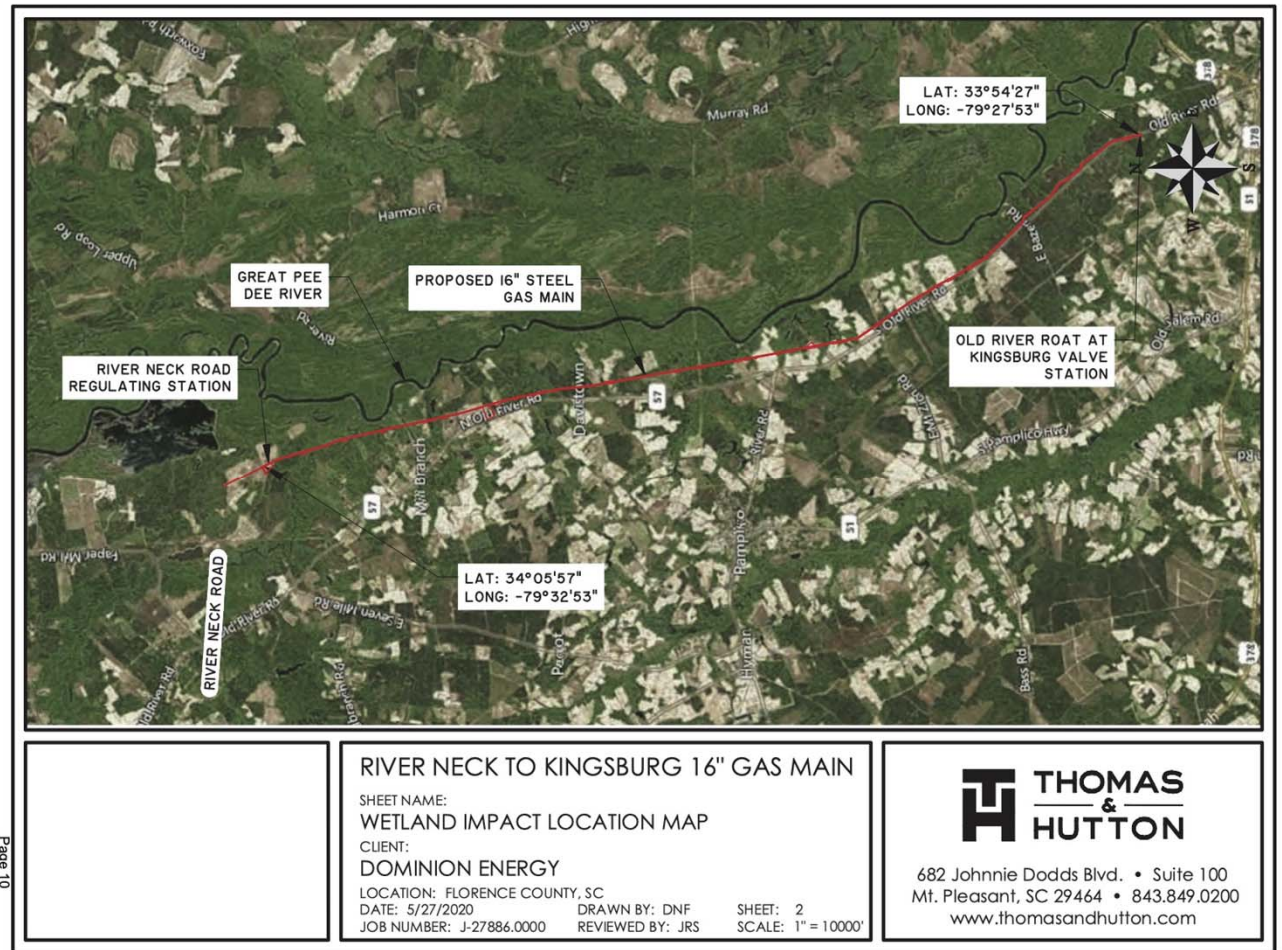


BLUE RIDGE ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENSE LEAGUE

BREDL is a regional, community-based, non-profit environmental organization whose founding principles are earth stewardship, environmental democracy, social justice, and community empowerment.



DESC's
proposed 14.5
mile, 16-inch gas
line from River
Neck to
Kingsburg in
Florence County.



Page 10

Z:\27886\27886.0000\Engineering\Drawings\Exhibits\Wetland Exhibits\27886.0000 Wetland Location Map.dwg - Jun 3, 2020 - 11:29:46 AM

The project was never noticed in the construction docket and is in violation of PSC rules.

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

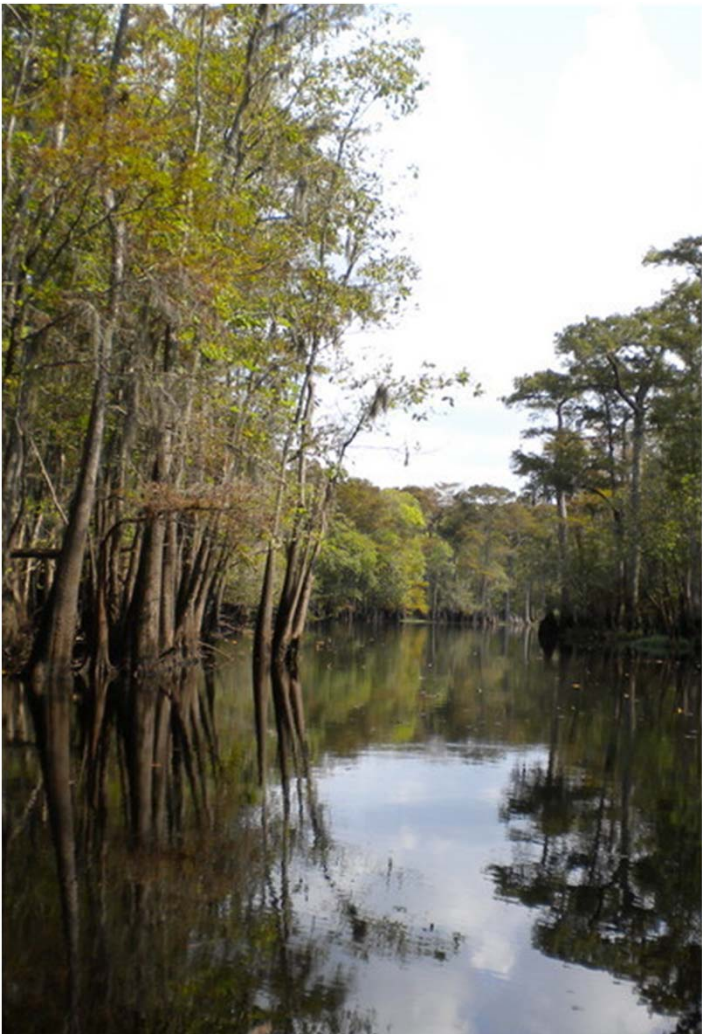
Allen Grumbine, Esq.
Chairperson

Columbia, SC 29210

RE: Dominion Energy South Carolina, Incorporated's (DESC)
Notice of Generic Proceeding Docket No. 2006-244-G

Dear Ms. Boyd:

The South Carolina Environmental Law Project (SCELP), on behalf of Blue Ridge Environmental Defense League (BREDL), would like to add the contents of this letter and related attachments to the above-referenced record. We also note that Order 2006-244-G instructs your office to set a notice of a generic proceeding on DESC's construction notices and the project appears to qualify for required reporting to the PSC under 26 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 103-412.2.7 - Construction Costs but the project does not appear to have been noticed and is therefore in violation of the PSC's own rules. We know that comments are not customary within the context of this particular docket, but we see no other way to provide input regarding this expensive capital project prior to construction and prior to a rate case. We would like to note concerns we have, both with this pipeline project as well as with the lack of any mechanism for determining the prudence and necessity of a project like this before it is built, before environmental and property rights damage is done and before the company itself incurs significant costs that will be passed on to either ratepayers or shareholders.



REGULATORY DIVISION
SAC-2019-01427

June 22, 2020

The proposed work consists of installing a 14.5 mile, 16 inch gas main by trench and backfill, widening portions of the Right of Way (ROW) easement by 10 feet, and the installation of a permanent roadway crossing of a tributary with a culvert to retain hydrological flow. In detail, the gas main will pass through twenty-seven (27) jurisdictional wetlands and two (2x) tributaries. The project seeks to temporarily impact 7.083 acres of wetlands with temporary clearing impacts for site preparation, 8.908 acres of wetlands with temporary excavation and backfill impacts for the installation of the gas main, 0.004 acres of tributaries with permanent fill impacts for the creation of a roadway crossing with associated culvert, and 2.519 acres of wetlands with permanent clearing and conversion of land from forested wetlands to emergent wetlands. The applicant has proposed

Figure 21: South Carolina Gas Utility - Mains by Size

SC GAS UTILITY	2" or Less	>2"-4"	>4"-8"	>8"-12"	>12"	Total
SOUTH CAROLINA ELECTRIC & GAS CO	6,178	1,516	1,140	77	7	8,918
PIEDMONT NATURAL GAS CO INC	2,412	669	442	54	-	3,577
FORT HILL NGA	1,093	460	144	33	-	1,730
YORK COUNTY NGA	1,099	369	152	2	-	1,622
LANCASTER COUNTY NGA	570	170	73	-	-	813
GREENWOOD CPW	407	246	46	43	-	742
CLINTON - NEWBERRY NGA	477	191	64	-	-	732
GREER CPW	449	220	60	-	-	729
CHESTER COUNTY NGA	385	170	35	-	-	590
UNION, CITY OF	235	109	57	5	-	405
LAURENS CPW	227	78	42	44	-	391
ORANGEBURG PUBLIC UTILITIES	210	59	52	30	-	351
FOUNTAIN INN NGA	176	108	19	-	-	303
WINNSBORO, TOWN OF	68	50	21	-	-	138
BENNETTSVILLE, CITY OF	56	28	2	-	-	86
BAMBERG BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS	51	32	-	-	-	83
PATRIOTS ENERGY GROUP	-	3	13	-	-	16
	14,092	4,478	2,361	286	7	21,225
	66%	21%	11%	1%	0%	

(Source: PHMSA)

Figure 22: South Carolina Gas Utility - Mains by Material

SC GAS UTILITY	Steel	Plastic	Total	% Steel	% Plastic
SOUTH CAROLINA ELECTRIC & GAS CO	3,905	5,013	8,918	44%	56%
PIEDMONT NATURAL GAS CO INC	1,461	2,116	3,577	41%	59%
FORT HILL NGA	742	988	1,730	43%	57%
YORK COUNTY NGA	358	1,264	1,622	22%	78%
LANCASTER COUNTY NGA	234	579	813	29%	71%
GREENWOOD CPW	332	410	742	45%	55%
CLINTON - NEWBERRY NGA	188	544	732	26%	74%
GREER CPW	182	547	729	25%	75%
CHESTER COUNTY NGA	123	467	590	21%	79%
UNION, CITY OF	172	233	405	43%	57%
LAURENS CPW	169	222	391	43%	57%
ORANGEBURG PUBLIC UTILITIES	236	115	351	67%	33%
FOUNTAIN INN NGA	70	233	303	23%	77%
WINNSBORO, TOWN OF	70	68	138	51%	49%
BENNETTSVILLE, CITY OF	54	32	86	63%	37%
BAMBERG BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS	38	45	83	46%	54%
PATRIOTS ENERGY GROUP	16	-	16	100%	0%
	8,350	12,875	21,225	39%	61%

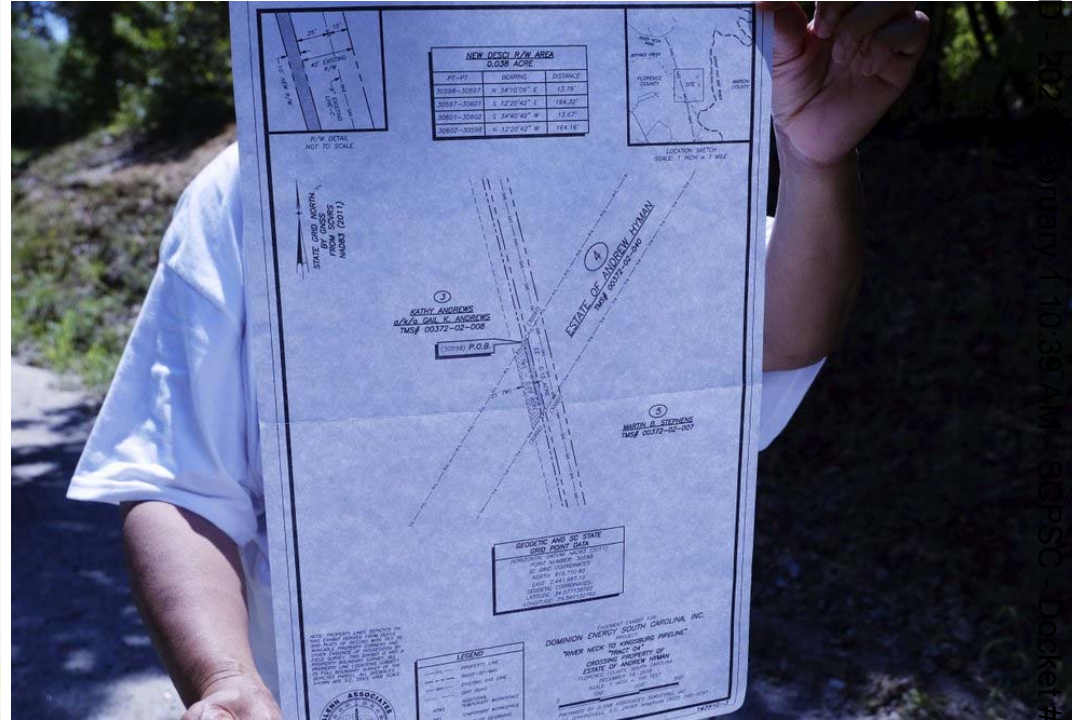
(Source: PHMSA)

Source: <http://www.energy.sc.gov/files/view/SC%20Natural%20Gas%20Infrastructure%20DRAFT%203-14-16.pdf>

Environmental Impacts

- The project does not comply with the Clean Water Act
- The gas main will pass through 27 jurisdictional wetlands and 2 tributaries
 - 7.083 acres of wetlands cleared temporarily for site preparation
 - 8.908 acres of wetlands with temporary excavation and backfill impacts for the installation of the gas main
 - 0.004 acres of tributaries with permanent fill impacts for the creation of a roadway crossing with associated culvert
 - 2.519 acres of wetlands with permanent clearing and conversion of land from forested wetlands to emergent wetlands

Heirs Property Rights, Eminent Domain



Rev. Reatha Jefferson: “This property’s been in my family for 100 years. How do they think they can tell me what they’re going to run through my property?”

— “Small pipeline, large worries for some S. Carolina residents,” Associated Press, October 3, 2020

Poor Safety Record

Dominion Energy under scrutiny after mud clogs water system near utility's SC project



As Dominion Energy seeks to expand its presence in South Carolina by acquiring SCANA, the Virginia utility is under scrutiny for an environmental mess that temporarily shut down part of a SC public water system this spring.

— The State, May 25, 2018

Report recommends Dominion Energy Ohio forfeit \$2.5 million for last year's Pepper Pike gas explosion

Dominion has 30 days to respond to report



PEPPER PIKE, Ohio — An initial report released by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) has recommended that Dominion Energy Ohio forfeit \$2.5 million for a gas pipeline explosion that happened last year in Pepper Pike.

— News 5 Cleveland, March 7, 2020

Dominion Energy agrees to pay \$1.4M fine years after saying toxic water dump was legal

March 16, 2020



After the discharge of toxic coal ash water from its Possum Point power station in 2015, Dominion Energy insisted it was made in compliance with its Clean Water Act permit. However, an investigation proved otherwise. (© Julia Rendleman)

— Southern Environmental
Law Center, March 16, 2020



Thank you.

